**roadblock** [ˋrod͵blɑk] n. 路障；障碍物

**conundrum** [kəˋnʌndrəm] n. 复杂难解的问题

**upcountry** [ˋʌpˋkʌntrɪ] n. 内地（的）；内陆（的）

**be stretched thin**: not have sufficient resources to carry out tasks, have too much work

**smoldering** [ˋsmoldɚ ɪŋ] adj. 闷燃的

**soot** [sʊt] n. 煤灰；煤烟

**avid** [ˋævɪd] adj. 热心的，劲头十足的

**diligent** [ ˈdɪlədʒənt] adj. 认真刻苦的，勤奋的，勤劳的; carried out with care and perseverance

**lifeblood** [ˋlaɪf͵blʌd] n. 生机的根源；命脉

**quench** [kwɛntʃ] v. 解（渴）[（+with）]

**replenish** [rɪˋplɛnɪʃ] v. 再装满

**assume** [əˋsjum] v.（想当然地）认为

**take your foot off the gas**把脚从油门上挪开; to do something with less effort and determination

**rapid** [ˋræpɪd] n. 急流；急湍

**ramp** [ræmp] n. 斜面；斜坡

**slither** [ˋslɪðɚ] v. 连走带跑地滑；滑溜

**ophidiophobia** [͵ɔfədaɪoˋfobɪə] n.恐蛇症